GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1124
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2016
Low Cost Innovations in Health Sector
Chavan Shri Ashok Shankarrao;Gaikwad Dr. Sunil Baliram;Gupta Shri Sudheer;Jayavardhan Dr. Jayakumar;Kirtikar Shri Gajanan Chandrakant;Mahato Shri Bidyut Baran;S.R. Shri Vijay Kumar;Singh Shri Kunwar Haribansh

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Biotechnology in association with start-ups supported by the centre has developed several low cost medical innovations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has decided to market these low cost medical innovations and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether such marketing is likely to be done domestically or efforts will be made to export the same and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government for promoting better and low cost innovations in health care sector in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(Y.S. CHOWDARY)
??????? ?? ???????????? ??? ?????? ??????? ?????? ??????
(???. ??. ?????)

(a) to (b) The Department of Biotechnology has supported Biodesign programme for inclusive medical technology innovation, which has a mandate of developing simple, rapid, indigenous,
low cost medical devices and implants by applying 4 components i.e., affordability, accessibility, availability and appropriateness. Various prototypes have been developed. Thirteen technologies have been licensed and 9 start-up companies launched under this programme. Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), a PSU of Department of Biotechnology (DBT) is also supporting the area of medical innovations through its different schemes like Biotech Ignition Grant (BIG), Small Business Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI), Biotechnology Industry Partnership Programme (BIPP), Contract Research Scheme (CRS) and SPARSH and these efforts have already resulted into the development of 21 affordable innovations.

(c) Department of Biotechnology and BIRAC schemes provide financial support to Innovators upto pre-commercialization stage and IP belongs to the applicant companies/Innovators. Hence, the marketing of these innovations is being done by the Innovators.

(d) Not Applicable, in view of (c).

(e) Department of Biotechnology is continuously supporting and promoting low cost innovations in healthcare through national/international collaborations. A National Biodesign Alliance Programme has been established. A High Technology Incubation Centre for Medical Technology Innovation has also been supported at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Research Park, Chennai.
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